Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds Small Cities Development Program State of Minnesota

Posted: December 21, 2021

Name, Address, Zip Code & Phone # of Grantee: City of La Crescent, 315 Main St., PO Box

142, La Crescent, MN 55947 (507) 895-8636

Telephone Number/Contact Name of Preparing Agency: (507) 864-8207 Cindy Vitse,

Semcac

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about January 3, 2022, the City of La Crescent will request the Business and Community Development Division (BCD), Small Cities Development Program, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), to release federal funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 98-181) for the following project:

The City of La Crescent Owner Occupied Housing Rehab Grant Program: The program will rehab 20 owner occupied homes within the City limits of La Crescent and not located within a 100-year floodplain. The activity to be performed will be rehabilitation of eligible owner occupied single-family homes from DEED's Small Cities Development Loan Program. The project estimated total is \$595,000, which includes up to \$43,000 in non-SCDP funds.

The activities proposed for exclusion under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act Requirements because the activity (Owner Occupied Rehab) will consist of minor rehabilitation on owner occupied housing. The unit density will not be increased beyond 4 units, the land use will not be changed and the footprint of the building will not be increased in a floodplain or in a wetland. State Historic Preservation Office and interested Tribes, if required will be contacted for applicable projects. If needed, a "finding of no adverse effect" will be completed before commitment of funds for individual projects. Individual rehabilitation projects will be evaluated to see if they are located on/near a site that contains hazardous materials that could affect the health and safety of occupant. In addition, individual rehabilitation projects will be evaluated for toxic hazards, which will be remediated if possible. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) respecting this project has been made by the City of La Crescent that documents the environmental review of the project. This ERR is on file at the address above and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m..

In accordance with 24 CFR Part 58.15, a tiered review process has been structured for the rehabilitation, whereby some environmental laws and authorities have been reviewed for the target area and other applicable laws and authorities will be complied with, when participating properties have been identified and projects are ripe for review. Specifically, the target area has been studied and compliance with the following laws and authorities has been established: airport hazards, costal barrier resources, flood insurance, clean air, coastal zone management, endangered species, farmland protection, floodplain management, noise abatement and control, sole source aquifers, wetland protection, wild and scenic rivers, and environmental justice. In addition, pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, comments on the identification and treatment of historic properties in the project area are welcome.

Compliance with the following laws and authorities will take place once properties within the target

area have been identified, but prior to the commitment of funds: contamination and toxic substances, explosive and flammable hazards, and historic preservation requirements and HUD environmental standards for hazards. Compliance documentation on the aforementioned laws and authorities will be in each individual property file, and copies will be available, once established, at Semcac, 204 S Elm St., PO Box 549, Rushford, MN 55971.

Rehabilitation of historic properties will be done in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation in consultation with Minnesota SHOP. Submission procedures will be followed for State Historic Preservation and interested Tribes, if required. If needed, a "finding of no adverse affect" will be completed before commitment of funds for individual projects. The Section 106 historic process may required additional publications. Individual rehabilitation projects will be evaluated to see if they are located on/near a site that contains hazardous material that could affect the health and safety of occupants. In addition, individual properties will be evaluated for toxic hazards, which will be remediated if possible. The US Fish and Wildlife Service www.fws.gov shows that Houston County has the following endangered species: Clams, Higgins Eye (Pearlymussel) Lampsilis higginsii and Sheepnose MusselPlethobasus cyphyus.

Public Comments on Request to Release Funds

Any individual, group or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Semcac. All comments received by December 31, 2021 will be considered by the City of La Crescent prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds.

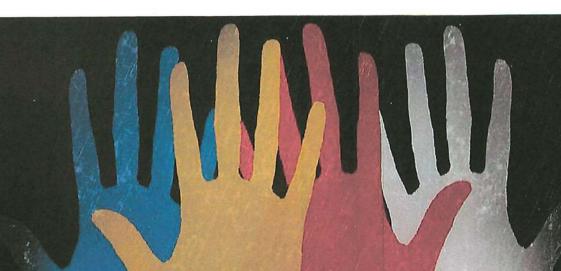
The City of La Crescent will undertake the project described above with Block Grant funds from DEED, under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of La Crescent is certifying to DEED that the City of La Crescent and Mike Poellinger, in his official capacity as Mayor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that with approval, the City of La Crescent may use the Block Grant funds, and DEED and HUD will have satisfied their responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Objections to Release of Funds

DEED Business and Community Development Division (BCD) will accept objections to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification for a period of eighteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only for one of the following reasons: (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the Chief Executive Officer or other officer of the grantee approved by BCD; (b) that the grantee's ERR for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process; (c) the grant recipient has incurred costs not authorized at 24 CFR Part 58.22 before approval of a release of funds by BCD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 24 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58), and may be emailed to irene.dossier@state.mn.us. Potential objectors should contact the email address as well to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Mike Poellinger, Mayor of La Crescent, 315 Main St., PO Box 142, La Crescent, MN 55947



"I DON'T FEEL SAFE IN MY HOME ANYMORE."

"I'M SCARED!"

"My landlord's comments are ALWAYS sexual." "This isn't FAIR!"

"I FEEL SO VIOLATED."

"Who can I call?" "IDON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO."

> Maed Help!

"If I don't give in to the advances, I will get evicted."

"Who will believe me?" "SEX FOR

HOME REPAIRS IS WRONG."

> "I felt like I didn't have a CHOICE."

CALL HUD

BECAUSE SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN HOUSING IS ILLEGAL.



1-800-669-9777 / 1-800-877-8339 TTY

WWW.HUD.GOV





HARASSMENT IN HOUSING BASED ON RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, SEX, DISABILITY, OR FAMILY STATUS IS ILLEGAL. IF YOU BELIEVE YOU'VE EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT, CONTACT HUD TO REPORT IT.





We Do Business in Accordance With the Federal Fair Housing Law

(The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988)

It is illegal to Discriminate Against Any Person Because of Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Handicap, Familial Status, or National Origin

- In the sale or rental of housing or residential lots
- In advertising the sale or rental of housing
- In the financing of housing

- In the provision of real estate brokerage services
- In the appraisal of housing
- Blockbusting is also illegal

Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination:

1-800-669-9777 (Toll Free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Washington, D.C. 20410